

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER  
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM  
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

**Project Details**

**1. Project title:**

Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project

**2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):**

Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet)  
4012 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202

**3. Contact information**

a. **Project's primary contact:** Neil McFarlane

b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-962-2103

c. **Email Address:** lortsk@trimet.org

d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address): Project offices located at  
710 NE Holladay Street, Portland, OR 97232

**4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.**

TriMet is a municipal corporation providing public transportation in much of the three counties in the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area. TriMet operates a comprehensive transit network including a 52-mile, 77 station light rail system, 93 bus lines, 15-mile commuter rail service, and service for seniors and people with disabilities.

**5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?**

TriMet is a public agency.

**6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific -e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?**

Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Section 5309 New Starts Program

**7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)**

TriMet requests \$60 million in Section 5309 New Starts funding for preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and final design of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project.

In May 2003 the Metro Council adopted a two-phase South Corridor plan to extend light rail to Clackamas County. The first phase opened in September 2009, extending light rail from Gateway Transit Center along I-205 to Clackamas Town Center and from Union Station to Portland State University along the Portland Transit Mall.

The Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail line is the second phase, and is scheduled to open in 2015. The project consists of a new 7.3 mile light rail line with 10 stations, two 1,000-space park-and-ride facilities, and will serve an estimated 27,400 daily passengers by 2030. The alignment travels from Portland State University, across a new multi-modal bridge over the Willamette River (a 1.3-mile segment that will include joint operations for buses, light rail vehicles and streetcars), and through southeast Portland neighborhoods to Milwaukie.

Besides the bridge, the project will build elevated structures crossing over roads and freight rail lines in the City of Portland and Clackamas County. The project also includes purchase of 21 new light rail vehicles, expansion of the Ruby Junction maintenance facility, real property acquisition, preliminary and final design, construction and project management, interim finance and insurance.

The project received permission to enter preliminary engineering in late March 2009, and will request permission to enter final design in late March 2010. In-water construction work in the Willamette River is scheduled for summer 2011.

**8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?**

The project will connect the Portland central business district with regional educational institutions, dense urban neighborhoods, and emerging growth areas in East Portland and Milwaukie. Light rail service would operate at 7.5 minute peak-period frequencies.

The corridor's transportation network is currently congested and constrained by the Willamette River and dense existing development. The corridor's only radial highway (Highway 99E), which links downtown Portland via the existing Ross Island, Hawthorne, Morrison and Burnside bridges, is limited to two through-lanes in each direction for much of the segment between central Portland and Milwaukie.

The new line will:

- Increase work trips from this corridor to downtown Portland by 20 percent;
- Reduce vehicle trips each weekday by more than 9,100 (or 60,000 vehicle miles);
- Require 110 fewer bus trips each weekday on 5th and 6th avenues; and
- Improve travel time between Milwaukie and South Waterfront by 58 percent, and Milwaukie and Portland State University by 29 percent.

The entire Portland-Milwaukie light rail project will create an estimated 19,850 jobs (14 jobs per \$1 million in project cost). Direct jobs required during the design phase include professional services in the engineering, survey, real property, and geotechnical fields. Civil construction workers, skilled plant workers for manufacturing rail and light rail vehicles, electricians, signals engineers and communications specialists are also needed to build the project.

In addition to connecting Portland and Milwaukie, the light rail project will serve as an anchor for the Innovation Quadrant, connecting Portland State University, Oregon

Health Sciences University and the Central Eastside Industrial District, including Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and Portland Community College's Workforce Training Center. Improving connections and access to these regional economic engines will expand business access to markets, spur inner city redevelopment and reduce the business costs associated with congestion. Together, the four districts of the quadrant are projected to grow by approximately 30,000 jobs and 11,000 households over the next 25 years.

**9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years? If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.**

No.

### **Funding Details**

**10. Amount requested for this project:**

\$60,000,000 in Section 5309 New Starts funding.

TriMet is seeking a total of 60%, or \$850,558,000 federal share through the New Starts Program.

**11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):**

Preliminary and final design	\$35,000,000
Real property acquisition	<u>\$25,000,000</u>
Total	\$60,000,000

**12. What is the total cost of the project?**

\$1,417,597,000

**13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?**

Yes. TriMet will apply all federal funding received to the project and advance local funds during FY 2011 to achieve required cash flow and maintain project schedule.

**14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)**

Total Local Funding Sources:

State of Oregon	\$ 250,000,000
Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan funds	\$ 72,500,000
In-kind (land donations)	\$ 48,000,000
TriMet	\$ 30,000,000
City of Portland	\$ 30,000,000
Clackamas County	\$ 25,000,000
City of Milwaukie	\$ 5,000,000
Other local	\$ 6,539,000
Project interest	<u>\$100,000,000</u>
Total	\$567,039,000

**15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.  
(Please attach any letters of support for the project with this form)**

Metro Regional Government, Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT),  
Clackamas County, City of Milwaukie, Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project Citizen Advisory  
Committee